

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

74-5302/A

5 JUN 1974

Mr. Donald B. Rice
President
The RAND Corporation
1700 Main Street
Santa Monica, California 90406

Dear Mr. Rice:

I must say that you raised a number of valid points in your letter to me last month on the problem of FCRC access to intelligence. My staff has taken a hard look at the issues involved and I have reviewed their findings with some care.

Your letter characterizes the regulations for controlling the dissemination of certain kinds of intelligence documents as "unnecessary and counterproductive," and I can understand how they could appear so to someone in your position. But, I hope you will appreciate how I view the present controls. As you may know, I have a statutory responsibility for the protection of intelligence sources and methods. For this reason, dissemination controls are put on certain intelligence documents which are particularly sensitive.

These controls are not applied capriciously or to prevent access to these documents by RAND or any other FCRC. Rather, the reason is to ensure that such dissemination is the result of a conscious decision and not the result of a routine procedure. This conscious decision must be based on the sensitivity of the sources and methods involved as well as on the real need for the FCRC to have access to the intelligence in order to satisfy a contractual task for the US Government. Although I cannot make the exceptions to the present dissemination policy you requested, it may be somewhat reassuring for you to know that in making decisions about dissemination, we do differentiate between FCRCs and other contractors.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

F-10

You have a legitimate complaint about excessive time delays. Certainly, you should not have to wait up to six months for an answer to requests for intelligence documents with controlled dissemination. I am told that occasionally FCRC requests for such documents are overly broad and do not explain how the intelligence will be used. This entire process might be expedited if the FCRCs could limit each request to intelligence directly pertinent to a particular contract and could explain more fully how the intelligence would be used in working on the contract. If the FCRCs could also exert pressure on the federal contracting officers to forward the requests to us quickly, I shall do everything I can to expedite the process when the requests come to us for action.

Sincerely,

W. E. Colby

W. E. Colby
Director

TAT [Redacted]

Deputy Director for Intelligence

15 May 74
Date

TAT O/DDI: [Redacted] m (15 May 74)

Distribution

Orig - Addressee

- ① - DCI w/basic
- 1 - DDCI w/basic
- 1 - ER w/basic
- 1 - D/CRS w/basic
- 1 - DDI File w/basic
- 1 - Chrono